

# Quote

THE WEEKLY DIGEST

Volume 11

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Number 3

## WITHIN THE WEEK

It is our present opinion that the threatened steel strike will not materialize. These lines are written Thursday, the 10th. Most of you will know by the time you read them whether our conclusion is correct. This is a simple, old-fashioned demand for more money. The issue can be summed in 7 words: "two bucks a day; sign and pay." There are no economic nuances involved. Steelworkers want a \$2 raise. If that involves an increase in the price of steel (as it doubtless will) that's okay by them.

You can put it down as a firm fact that none of the strikes now pending or incipiently operative in vital industries—steel, meat, communications—will be permitted to drag along in the Gen'l Motors pattern. If issues can't be settled promptly, government will take over.

**FACT-FINDING:** Whether you like it or not—and regardless of the immediate outcome of the Gen'l Motors case—issue of public fact-finding must be faced. There's every indication that technique may become firmly foundationed in nat'l economy. Already, clear majority appear to favor public intervention to determine private profits (see *Shifting Sands*). If you find little sentiment favoring such policy, maybe you just aren't talking to right people!

Of course basic idea of fact-finding boards in labor-management disputes isn't new. It has been operative in Britain for 2 decades; in European countries for varying periods. In some probably-modified form the technique is now entering American economic life. It may be temporarily sidetracked, but there's no foreseeable force to stop it permanently.

In the long-range picture, prices to consumers, wages to employees and profits to investors will no longer be determined wholly by market conditions and individual competition. Division by decision is the technique of the times. In that division, labor and government will become increasingly articulate.

We aren't arguing the merits of a plan. We are telling you what's going to happen in the course of a few yrs. In our opinion, the program has many grave flaws. It is beset by dangers not only to management, but to labor as well. But it is on the way.

**HOUSING:** Pres TRUMAN was pretty glib in recent reference to "5 million housing units." But there's no conceivable program to produce fraction of that number this yr. Most promising plan for early relief: large-scale use of military Quonset huts and reconstructed barracks. This is temporary, spotty, inadequate.



## SHIFTING SANDS

Average individual in middle income brackets, associating with mature persons of conservative trend, doesn't sense degree to which public sentiment in U S has turned toward gov't regulation of business profits. They may continue to view anything approaching regulation as heresy or worse. But whether conservatives like it or not, thinking has changed rapidly and radically. Nat'l Opinion Research Center has completed nation-wide survey which reveals 57% of public believe gov't *should* decide what is fair profit for big business. Even more significant is fact that nearly half (45%) believe *all* business profits, including those of smallest operator, should be regulated by gov't. . . . Some pretty smelly groups are currently trying to gain prestige and the guise of respectability by conferring citations and awards on prominent persons and corporations. If offered any such honors, investigate before acceptance.



FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE MENTALLY MAROONED

# Quote

"HE WHO NEVER QUOTES, IS NEVER QUOTED"

Charles Hadden Spurgeon

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"Within 2 wks after the start of the strike, the butchers' shelves will be bare of meat all the way across the country." — LEWIS J CLARK, internat'l pres, United Packinghouse Workers of America, calling upon 200,000 workers to strike Jan 16. 1-Q

"We've shocked the world — but we're not hairbrained idiots trying to destroy it." — Dr SAMUEL ALLISON atomic research scientist. 2-Q

"It means supervision, restriction and overlordship." — Col BEN C LIME, chairman of the Korean commission to the U S, criticizing Moscow agreement between foreign secretaries on a trusteeship for Korea. 3-Q

"He must be all right to have come all this way to fetch her." — Father of RITA BLANKLEY, of Nottingham, England, on learning that DOMINICK CASCIARI, ex-paratrooper of New Canaan, Conn, had flown to England to marry his daughter. 4-Q

"Any American soldier can buy a Japanese bride for 1000 yen — about \$67." — Pvt GEO F DOHERTY, Riverside, Calif, ret'g from Pacific area. (Acc'd'g to DOHERTY, native girls go thru Japanese marriage, not legal in U S. Soldier gets a divorce when he is ready to ret'n home.) 5-Q

"Male and female personnel should only be together when conducting hospital business and this should be in an orderly manner. Lovemaking and lollygagging are hereby strictly forbidden." — From a memo signed by Capt C F BERNERS, exec officer, posted at St Albans hospital this wk. 6-Q

"The prospect of such steady employment cannot be totally ignored." — United Press announcement that on the retirement of HENRY PIERREPOINT, Britain's executioner, his nephew, ALBERT, was expected to take a prominent part in the executions of Nazis. 7-Q

"The only defense against atomic bombs is the creation of a world

## "MAY WE Quote YOU ON THAT?"

in which no one has the slightest desire to drop atomic bombs on anyone else." — STEPHEN KING-HALL. 8-Q

"A woman may want her husband to work hard and buy her a mink coat—but after she gets it she craves romance." — LISSETTE VERA, Romanian actress, who asserted in N Y this wk that American men put in such long hard office hrs they have no time or energy for "their homework — romance." 9-Q

"We shall only win the peace as we have won the war, by character and hard work." — WINSTON CHURCHILL, in New Yr's message to the British people. 10-Q

"I realized 10 yrs ago he just lived in a better house and had better clothes." — A Japanese wooden-shoe salesman, showing no surprise over Hirohito's announcement that he was not divine. 11-Q

"We must have a military government here as long as it is necessary to be secure against aggression." — Maj Gen'l ALEXANDER KOTIKOV, head, of Soviet Military Government in Saxony, declaring that the Russians were prepared to stay in Germany a long time to achieve their aims. 12-Q

"All we want is enough coal to take the chill off." — Spokesman for Folies Bergere, Paris, where chorus girls threaten to strike in protest at subglacial temperatures. 13-Q

"Last Aug there probably was not a power on the globe that could have stood up to the terrible strength of the American Army.

Today, in its present mood, what is left of the Army would have a tough job kicking over an aboriginal tribe on the warpath." — HAL BOYLE, AP correspondent at Manila, citing degeneration of U S troops now that "going home" has developed into service-wide psychosis. 14-Q

"I'll sing when I please; I'm no salesman of cheese." — BING CROSBY, commenting on difficulties with radio sponsor, Kraft Cheese. 15-Q

"The majority of these people really think Japan won the war. They think what they read in newspapers is just propaganda and that Japan is actually forcing U S to ret'n us as part of the peace conditions." — KAZUSHIRO YOSHIDA, Stockton, Calif, embarking with 4500 other Japs at Portland, Ore, for Yokohama. 16-Q

"I do not like the eagle looking that way." — HERMAN GOERING, protesting to guards over new shoulder insignia they wear showing German eagle dashed to the ground and broken. Replied Col B E ANDRUS, chief of internal security: "You should have thought of that before you started that eagle flying." 17-Q

"If the under-privileged children had an alumni ass'n, I could be their president. But I wouldn't, because there is no such thing as being under-privileged if you have the privilege of being an American citizen." — ROBERT ROSS WASON, pres, Manning, Maxwell & Moore, and recently-elected pres of Nat'l Ass'n of Mfrs. (WASON says he intends to clarify nat'l economic picture by stating case for the entire American people, "not for any fragment, class or group.") 18-Q

"I cannot in good conscience receive benefits of gov't assistance when so many of my less fortunate sisters and their orphaned children are not yet taken care of." — Mrs AURORA M QUEZON, widow of late pres of Philippines, declining life pension of 1,000 pesos monthly, recently voted by the Philippines Congress. 19-Q

"That complex has at times tempted our studios to imitate what is indigenous to Hollywood." — HERBERT MORRISON, Lord Pres of Council, declaring that Britain must free itself of its "inferiority complex" about its own films. "Show the British and their lives and institutions as they really are," he counseled, "and you won't go wrong." 20-Q

### On the Other Hand...



"From Tientsin to Chinwangtao, in garrisons, guarding railroads or repatriating Japs, more and more of the Leather-necks are cracking up daily." — DICK WILSON, *Stars & Stripes* correspondent, reporting that morale of American Marines in North China is "lousy." 20-Q

"Any statements that morale of the Marines in China is low are absolutely false." — Maj Gen'l LEMUEL H SHEPARD, U S M C, en route to Washington from Tsingtao. 20-Q



"I've just found out I've got to do it all over again next yr." — ARCH PENNINGTON, Kans farmer, promised his son "the biggest party southeast Kans ever saw" when he got out of the army. PENNINGTON kept his promise, prepared a party for 1,000 servicemen and then discovered that his son had re-enlisted on his way home. 21-Q

"The generalissimo 'doodled' a good deal as I talked with him." — Sen CLAUDE PEPPER, who visited STALIN in Moscow recently. 22-Q

"Kissing is one way flu 'gets around. It should be avoided when possible." — Message rec'd by Pocatello (Ida) health authorities from JOHN W WRIGHT, of Boise, Acting State Vital Statistics Director, urging that opportunities for direct contact infection with influenza be reduced. 23-Q

"Taking it by and large, I think we are more afraid now than 3 yrs ago in the middle of the war. We are afraid of one another." — Rev LESLIE F HALL, British minister. 24-Q

"There cannot be full employment without fair employment. The fight against planners of World War III is on. The battle against bigotry, oppression and greed is our battle." — HENRY A WALLACE, Sec'y of Agriculture. 25-Q

"To the peoples of the Soviet Union, Great Britain, and the U S whom war has joined together, let not peace put asunder." — Jas F BYRNES, Sec'y of State. 26-Q

"What kind of an auto would we have if we used one-third of our knowledge of physics and omitted the other two-thirds?" — Dr HENRY NOBLE MacCRACKEN, pres, Vassar College, addressing Nat'l Conference of Christians and Jews. Dr MacCRACKEN asserts science has accumulated vast stores of information which, if applied, would solve many civic problems. 27-Q

"The Japanese were not ordained to rule the earth." — Emperor HIROHITO. 28-Q

"Our superb merchant fleet today bears eloquent witness to the thorough-going and efficient job which you have done." — Pres HARRY S TRUMAN, paying tribute to Vice-Admiral HOWARD L VICKERY, upon his resignation as ass't chairman of the Maritime Commission and deputy head of the War Shipping Administration. 29-Q

"Music has no boundaries of race or creed and so is perfect for propaganda." — GRACE MOORE, announcing plans of newly organized Musicians for French-American Friendship Committee which will send American musicians to Europe and bring European music and musicians to America. 30-Q

"(Screen actresses) aren't old enough to be chic or clothes-conscious." — ORRY-KELLY, Hollywood

fashion designer, declaring that they assemble their wardrobes like "amateur cooks who toss everything into 1 kettle and produce a stew." 31-Q

"Where reasonable needs of servicemen cannot otherwise be met, reservations of up to 100% of such stocks for veterans is recommended." — Civilian Production Administration, proposing that retail merchants set aside hard-to-find clothing for sale to veterans. 32-Q

"I agree with him completely!" — The Very Rev HEWLETT JOHNSON. After recent U S visit, he confirmed the opinion advanced by a predecessor as Dean of Canterbury that America was 100 yrs behind the rest of the world in everything except religion; and in religion, 150 yrs behind. 33-Q

"The chance of any business, both big and little, is very small." — MAURY MAVERICK, chairman of Smaller War Plants Corp, on returning from 2 mo's tour of Pacific and Far East to study possibilities for little business in internat'l trade and industrialization of China. 34-Q



### Drake House

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## COLUMNIST'S COLUMN

What Did We Win?

HENRY McLEMORE

Sometime, somewhere, somebody is going to tell the U S what it won by winning World War II. I receive 50 or 60 letters a day, asking what we have gained by becoming the mightiest power on earth. I don't know the answer.

Pick up the morning paper and try to figure it out for yourself. You will find headlines featuring crime, strife, dissension and continuing conflict.

Remember, this is going on above the crosses of the dead. This sort of history is being made by those on ground hallowed by men who gave their lives.

I would like to ask Messrs TRUMAN, MOLOTOV, BYRNES and BEVAN if they believe one single man died in this war to make such headlines as we now read daily.

I am supposed to be a man who writes on little things in a light manner. I do not work in the field of heavy thought. But there comes a time when even the comedians must think of Hamlet, and Pagliacci must lay down his drum for Macbeth. There is no such thing as watching an American soldier die and ever forgetting it. I saw it. I saw them bury Americans in many strange places. They had fought against what they thought was bad.

It is up to us, the living and unworthy Americans to continue the battle, to fight what we think is bad.

We won't do it, but wouldn't this be a lovely country if we would?—Abridged from a syndicated newspaper col.

### ART—1

Hollywood's 2 newest converts to painting are Buddy de Sylva and Arthur Freed, the producers. Last wk each was able to boast of having sold his 1st canvas for \$1,000. Each sold to the other!—LEONARD LYONS, syndicated col.

### CHURCH—Attendance—2

A minister told a poor washer-woman how glad he was to see her in her place in the church every Sunday, and so attentive to his sermons.

"Yes," she replied, "it is such a rest after a hard week's work, to come to church and just sit down and not think about anything."—Cumberland Presbyterian.

### COURAGE—Example—3

A marine who had lost his right arm on Iwo Jima lay on a bed in a Calif military hospital, silent, withdrawn.

Outside his window was a tall post to which was nailed, for some reason, a bit of 3-ply cotton rope. A pr of linnets tugged and strained at this to get bits of it for their nest-bldg. Sometimes they succeeded in getting a scrap, sometimes they failed.

From his bed the marine watched quietly. Then suddenly one day he turned to his nurse. "You know, those birds make me ashamed of myself. Watch them tugging at that rope, will you! The only tool they have to work with is a bill less than an inch from their eyes! How much could I do if my hand was stuck on my nose instead of my wrist? And they sing on the job, too!" He grinned, for the 1st time in wks, and asked: "What do we eat for chow tonight?" — *Nature Mag.*

### CRITICISM—4

Show me the man who insists that he welcomes criticism if only it is "constructive" and I will show you a man who does not want any criticism. I believe in totally destructive criticism if the occasion calls for it. If an artist paints a chromo, or an author writes a mess of a book, why should he not be told so, if only to prevent a repetition of the offense? I invite

anyone to criticize "constructively" Hitler or Mussolini or the devil.—HAROLD L ICKES, "My Pet Peeves," *This Wk*, 12-30-'45.

### ECONOMICS—5

Just as in physical life too hot or too cold are equally fatal, so too much want is as destructive as too little. Society still has far to go to achieve that degree of economic well-being in which, while man must work to live, life for many is not so difficult as to discourage a search for enduring values. — ARTHUR E MORGAN, "Beyond Utopia," *Sat Review of Literature*, 12-29-'45.

### EDUCATION—6

How are our students to learn about the contributions of the various immigrant and racial groups to American life if the overwhelming majority of textbooks used merely mention—to cite one instance—one or two bare facts about Columbus' Italian ancestry, and later Italian immigration to the U S, but omit any consideration of what Italians have contributed to the musical, artistic, economic and political life of our country? How can they be expected to get a true picture of the Negro when innumerable history books portray him as a contented slave and fail to mention Negro progress since B T Washington's time?—WM NOSORSKY, "American Schools Against Intolerance," *Progressive Education*, 11-'45.

### ENEMIES—7

Speak well of your enemies; remember you made them. — *This Month*.

### FAITH—8

A scientist can no more succeed without belief than a businessman can. All his discoveries, all his inventions and all of his unraveling of mysteries are the outcome of faith . . . Recently when certain honors were being bestowed upon a gallant company of scientists, I had the honor of sitting next to one of them at dinner. We were talking about the marvelous accomplishments of science in the last 20 yrs. He smiled and said,

"But that is nothing compared to what you are going to see in the next 20 yrs."

I said to him, "How do you know?"

He replied, "I don't know, but I believe it."—JOSEPH R SIZOO, *Not Alone*. (Macmillan)

#### They DO Say . . .

Nat'l Opinion Research, checking 17 cities for American Library ass'n, reports that reading is favorite spare-time occupation of 41% of adults. Majority prefer mag's and newspapers to books . . . SHERMAN BILLINGSLEY, of the Stork Club, reports in *This Wk* that high-class nightery can spend \$10,000 a yr just for ice cubes! . . . JOE LOUIS is touring country, making one-night stands with a band. Enterprising press ag't is approaching Negro pastors in several towns, asking that they mention date from pulpit pointing out JOE has "fought a clean fight" and "kept the faith." Some have agreed . . . World Book reports this poignant memo from shipping dept: "Rec'd Your Wonderful Human Body in damaged condition." Timely note: *Parade* declares Manhattan stationery store now offers entire stock of "Apartment to Let" signs at half price!

#### FLATTERY—9

Carnegie . . . owed much of his fortune to his tact. When he built his first big rail-mill, he named it after his best customer . . . This was a new idea. It was tactful. No other steel maker had ever thought of such a thing. And it helped to lay the foundation of his success.—HERBERT N CASSON, *Printers' Ink*.

#### GOD—and Man—10

Religion is the first thing and the last thing, and until a man has found God, and been found by God, he begins at no beginning, he works to no end.—H G WELLS, *Readings From Great Authors*. (Dodd, Mead)

#### GOSSIP—11

"I am more deadily than the screaming shell from the howitzer.

I ruin without killing; I tear down homes, break hearts and wreck lives. I travel on the wings of the wind. No innocence is strong enough to intimidate me; no purity pure enough to daunt me. I have no regard for truth, no respect for justice, no mercy for the defenseless . . . My victims are as numerous as the sands of the sea, and often as innocent. I never forget and seldom forgive. My name is—GOS-SIP!"—Quoted by MORGAN BLAKE, *Atlanta Jnl*.

#### HUMAN BEINGS—12

"What's wrong with the world?" It is said that this question was once addressed to Will Rogers and the Sage of Okla replied, "Oh, I reckon, just folks!" — ALBERT W PALMER, *The Light of Faith*. (Macmillan)

#### LOYALTY—13

The grip of one's inspiration is reflected in one's loyalty to that ideal. The Russian soldier, overtaken by Napoleon's men, was brought into the emperor's presence. The branding iron was applied to the palm of his hand. He gritted his teeth and stood unflinching as the letter "N" was burned into the sizzling flesh. Asking the meaning of this, he was told that he was now the property of the great Napoleon. Instantly he drew his sword from its scabbard, and cut off his branded hand. His defiant reply: "I belong body, soul, and mind to the Czar of Russia!"—Rev O E SANDON, "What Men Live By," *Christian Observer*, 1-2-'46.

#### MARRIED LIFE—14

"These prices make me give up all thought of marriage," said the prospective bridegroom to the furniture salesman. "It will be cheaper to let her sue me for breach of promise."—*Home Life*.

#### ORIGIN—"God Bless You"—15

The modern custom of saying "God bless you" to those who who sneeze goes back to 558 B C during a plague when the ancients said "Jupiter, help me!" as thousands of persons who seemed in good health collapsed after sneezing.—*Alexander Animator*.



CONFIDENTIALLY  
THRU A  
MEGAPHONE

It was inevitable, of course, that U S commercial opportunism would eventually seek to ride the fission route to fame and fortune. And, sure enough, *The New Yorker* reports that the current Manhattan telephone book lists 17 firms calling themselves "Atomic." Producers in just about every line are trying frantically to tie in their wares with the sensational publicity. There is, for example, the "Atom" flashlight. And a new soap product called *Gleam*, said to operate on an atomic principle, producing more suds by splitting them into more particles. And the mag, *This Month*, reports that the atomic age has invaded its editorial offices. This note was found, pencilled on the margin of a mss: "An infinitive is not an atom. Please stop splitting it."

You may have heard it said, of late, that by calling a certain mysterious N Y telephone number, you can learn whether an Army unit in which you are interested has sailed for home. The number is that of the Army public information center in N Y. It is Windsor 9-5310. (The Navy information center in N Y is Rec-2-9100.) They will give you the information quite readily, but it may not mean a great deal insofar as your personal interest is concerned. Thousands of men have been transferred or otherwise separated from their original outfits. Before placing your call, be sure to have full information, including your service-man's company, battalion, regiment, division (and for the navy the ship). If his unit is on the redeployment schedule, these centers will know it.



**MEDICINE:** Board for the co-ordination of malarial studies reported this wk on SN 7618, synthetic chemical on which tests began last April. It is declared superior to atabrine, much better than quinine for treatment of often fatal falciparum malaria. Number indicates this is 7618th of more than 14,000 substances tested for anti-malarial activity. As a suppressive, it need be taken only once a wk. As a remedy, it stops attacks in 24 hrs. Does not color skin or cause intestinal upsets. Board also announced promising cure for vivax malaria, form most common in U S. Present chemicals merely stop attacks; parasites remain dormant in body.

**OFFICE APPLIANCES:** Newest use for war-developed light metal is traveler's dictaphone. Practically a feather-weight, it will use magnesium cylinders which busy executive can mail back to his sec'y for transcription. (*Pathfinder*)

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** New color photo printing process, perfected by Eastman, reduces time req'd for color printing. Utilizes principle of dye transfer from matrices made from color-separation negatives. With contact printer or enlarger, full color print can be made in less than 1½ hrs, excluding all drying time. Successive high-quality color prints every 10 min. (*Adv & Selling*)

**RADIO:** Telex Magnetic Pillow speaker has been developed for convalescents, those who do not wish to disturb others while listening to radio programs. Enclosed in smooth plastic housing, element weighs 5 oz.; shockproof, waterproof. Price \$8.50. (*Telex, Inc, Minneapolis*)

#### PEACE—16

The world is officially at peace, but it's a peace that passeth all understanding. — OLIN MILLER, syndicated col.

#### RELIGION—17

Any one who has a religion is bound to do one of 2 things with it: change it or spread it. If it isn't satisfying, he must give it up. If it is satisfying, he must give it away.—*Wesleyan Christian Advocate*.

#### SALES TRAINING—18

A huge sales training job faces many retail outlets, as recent experiences testify.

Three male shoppers were called in by a N Y dep't store, handed \$100 each, told to spend the next hr buying the 1st pieces of merchandise selling for less than \$50 they ran across and bring back whatever change was left. No sales resistance; just point to the item, pay cash, carry it away.

At the end of an hr the shoppers ret'd. One still had \$82.50; another \$74; the third, \$58. "When salesladies saw us or other customers approaching," they reported "they either moved to the opposite sides of their counters, turned their backs, or pretended to be busy writing out orders."—*Modern Distribution*.

#### SEXES—19

How to tell the sexes apart now that both are wearing pants: The one listening is the man.—*Home Life*.

#### SPEECH—Speaking—20

The following paragraph is the standard test given applicants for jobs as radio announcers. Read it clearly and without mistakes in 20 seconds and you have an above-average diction!

*I bought a batch of baking powder and baked a batch of biscuits. I brought a big basket of biscuits back to the bakery and baked a basket of big biscuits. Then I took the big basket of biscuits and the basket of big biscuits and mixed the big biscuits with the basket of biscuits that was next to the big basket and put a bunch of biscuits*

*from the basket into a box. Then I took the box of mixed biscuits and a biscuit mixer and biscuit basket and brought the basket of biscuits and the box of mixed biscuits and the biscuit mixer to the bakery and opened a tin of sardines.—Facts.*

#### TEACHER—Pupil—21

A teacher, like any other artist, has something to create . . . But the material of the teacher's art is different. The sculptor, painter, composer has the material in which he is to express his art within his own control. The teacher must impress his concept upon a human being. This is restless material, with a will and a direction of its own.—*ESTHER CLOUDMAN DUNN, The Pursuit of Understanding*. (Macmillan)

#### VIEWPOINT—22

I went into a hardware store recently for a pancake turner. "Haven't had such a thing for more'n a yr," the prop told me tersely.

I repeated my request at another store. With a smile and a sly wink the merchant held up a small trowel. "This can lift any woman's pancake," he said. "It looks like a flop, but it'll flip—and that's all a flapjack needs!"—*H LEE JONES, Good Business*.

#### WAR—Cost—23

During a war nations think it pays to hate. Later they hate to pay.—*Banking*.

#### WOMEN—Age—24

A woman is old when she stops patting herself on the back and starts patting herself under the chin.—*TONI GILBERT, She*.

#### YOUTH—Russian—25

The younger generation seems to be the same the world over, judging from an article in a recent issue of the *Soviet Teachers Jnl* which criticizes teen-agers for extravagant hair-dos, elbowing in crowds, and slang-filled conversation. The worst habit of all, according to the writer, is the use of all kinds and colors of plastic dogs as ornaments.—*The Nat'l Parent-Teacher*.



**"Convincing sovereigns of the folly of wars . . ."**

CARL VAN DOREN has rendered signal service to all who treasure the works of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, in his new collection, *BENJAMIN FRANKLIN'S AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL WRITINGS* (Viking, \$5). The famous FRANKLIN Autobiography brings the consecutive story of his life to 1757; he lived 33 eventful yrs thereafter. This comprehensive collection includes numerous selections printed from original mss for the 1st time. The excerpt printed here, with its prophetic reference to aerial warfare, is from a letter written by FRANKLIN to his friend JAN INGENHOUSZ, while sojourning in France during the winter of 1784.

Dear Friend: Every information in my power respecting the balloons I sent you just before Christmas, contained in copies of my letters to Sir Joseph Banks. There is no secret in the affair, and I make no doubt that a person coming from you would easily obtain a sight of the different balloons of Montgolfier and Charles, with all the instructions wanted. If you undertake to make one, send an ingenious man here, lest the experiment might miscarry, which in an affair of so much public expectation would have bad consequences. It is a serious thing to draw out inhabitants of a great city, and a disappointment makes them angry . . .

It appears, as you observe, to be a discovery of great importance, and what may possibly give a new turn to human affairs. Convincing sovereigns of the folly of wars may perhaps be one effect of it, since it will be impracticable for the most potent of them to guard his dominions. Five thousand balloons, capable of raising 2 men each, could not cost more than 5 ships of the line; and where is the prince who can afford to cover his country with troops for its defence as that ten thousand men descending from the clouds might not in many places do an infinite deal of mischief before a force could be brought together to repel them? It is a pity that any national jealousy should, as you imagine it may, have prevented the English from prosecuting the experiment, since they are such ingenious mechanicians that in their hands it might have made a more rapid progress toward perfection and the utility it is capable of affording.

The balloon of Messrs Charles and Robert was really filled with inflammable air. The quantity being great, it was expensive and te-

**First Air Mail.**

In the 1st balloon flight across the English Channel on Jan 7, 1785, John Jeffries, of Boston, and his companion Jean-Pierre Blanchard, carried letters to Louis XVI, and to Franklin. Both these letters are now missing. However, there was, in the same flight, a letter from Wm Franklin to his son, Temple, which has been preserved by the American Philosophical Society as the earliest surviving piece of air mail.

dious filling, requiring 2 or 3 days and nights' constant labor. It had a *soupape*, or valve, near the top, which they could open by pulling a string and thereby let out some air when they had a mind to descend; and they discharged some of their ballast of sand when they would rise again. A great deal of air must have been let out when they landed, so that the loose part might envelop one of them; yet the car being lightened by that one getting out of it, there was enough left to carry up the other rapidly. They had no fire with them. That is used only in M. Montgolfier's globe, which is open at bottom, and straw constantly burnt to keep it up. This kind is sooner and cheaper filled, but must be of much greater dimensions to carry up the same weight; since air rarefied by heat is only twice as light as common air, and inflammable air ten times lighter. M. Morveau, a famous chemist at Dijon, has discovered an inflammable air that will cost only one twenty-fifth part of the price of what is made by oil of vitriol poured on iron filings. They say it is made from sea coal. Its comparative weight is not mentioned.



**GEMS FROM**

**Yesteryear**

**One For The Book**  
**PAUL NAFE**

One grim, sleety morning she was accosted by a heavy-set man who wanted something to eat. She was in a hurry to catch her bus for work, but in a flush of holiday good-will, she said: "I live in that cottage over there. In the refrigerator I have what's left of a pork roast and sweet potatoes. Here's the key . . . help yourself. Put the key under the mat on the front porch."

All the way downtown, she was dogged by the thought that she was the prize fool of fools. But she resolutely overcame her fears with the conviction that men react gallantly to trust and confidence . . .

Sure enough, there was the key, under the mat. But when she opened the door and switched on the lights, she could scarcely believe her eyes: The house had been thoroughly swept and dusted; everything was in its clean place. Even the windows had been washed. Yes, as expected, there was less food in the refrigerator—but the interior was gleaming with its fresh wash job.

On top, in plain view, was a roughly-written note: "Dear Miss: You probably will never know what you have done for me. I was paroled a few days ago, and the going hasn't been too easy. But I've got what it takes now. Thanks a million."

There is no point in trying to write in an obvious moral, but the incident seems to bear out something Jas Russell Lowell once said: "Be noble; and the nobleness that lies in other men, sleeping but never dead, will rise in majesty to meet thine own."—*Louisville Courier-Jnl.*

The witness was certainly no chicken, and the young barrister thought it would be to his advantage to get her rattled.

"And now, madam," he said. "I must ask a personal question. How old are you?"

"Young man," she replied, "it isn't more than an hr since the judge, there, objected to hearsay evidence. And I don't remember being born."—*Capper's Wkly.*

" "

Jones, Smith and Brown were having a discussion. The topic was, "The most important part of my body." Jones, a famous singer, declared, "My throat is the most important part of my body."

Smith, a noted pianist, opined, "My hands are most important."

Brown was an average man. He thought a moment, then said, "The most important part of my body is the dimple in my knees."

The others wanted an explanation.

Said Brown, "Well, I always eat celery in bed, and that's where I keep the salt."—*Seventeen.*



## OF THE WEEK

**GOLD-DIGGER:** a human gimme pig.  
—*She.*

" "

**GOOD NEIGHBOR:** a fellow who smiles at you over the back fence, but doesn't climb it. — **ARTHUR** ("Bugs") **BAER**, *Ladies' Home Jnl.*

" "

The 1st Adam-splitting gave us Eve, a force which man in all the ages since has never got under control. — **Richmond** (Va.) *Times-Dispatch.*

" "

**YOUTH:** the 1st 50 yrs of your life — the 1st 20 of anyone else's. — *Carbon Copy.*

# GOOD STORIES YOU CAN USE

## I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE

SIDNEY SKOLSKY

Walter Bullock, a movie script writer, was having a conference with his producer. They were discussing a scene that called for a husband to make a corny compliment about his wife. The producer objected to the line.

"That's terrible!" he said. "That's old-fashioned."

"But that's the kind of a character he is," Bullock tried to explain. "He's the type of fellow who talks in platitudes."

"Okay, okay," said the producer, "but at least let's get some fresh platitudes."

A Texas father was dining with his son in a Texas hotel, and in the course of dinner the son got into an argument with a cowboy. The cowboy called him an offensive name, and the young fellow grabbed his knife and started around the table to be avenged.

"Ain't ye got no table manners?" the old man hissed.

"But, pop, ye heered what he called me, didn't ye?"

"That ain't no ground for yer fergettin' yer table manners. Put down that knife and go at him with yer fork!" — *Canning Trade.*

A ladies' club in New Jersey invited a female book reviewer to speak at its meeting. She told the plot of a triple-A tear jerker, and the entire assembly broke into tears. All but one, that is—a lady who sat dry-eyed and unmoved thru the entire recital. After the lecture, the reviewer asked her why she hadn't cried. The lady's answer stopped her cold. "Oh," she explained, "I'm not a member."—**BENNETT CERF**, *Scholastic.*

" "

The minister of a local congregation approached the desk of the city editor. "I just dropped by," he said, "to thank you for the very generous report on my sermon in your morning edition, and — er — to register a mild protest."

"A protest? No serious misstatement, I trust," said the editor.

"That's just the trouble," said the minister ruefully. "I'm afraid it may be too true. You referred to me as 'reverend', but you spelled it 'neverend'!" — *Farm Jnl.*



